Podcast Report Information

The purpose of this project is to get you better acquainted with the Exhibit Museum of Natural History. Many of the exhibits in the Museum overlap with topics what we cover in class (or would cover if we had the time). What better way to learn than to immerse yourself in the information? The end product of this project will be a series of podcasts, which will be posted on the Exhibit Museum website for the world to download. The material you create here will leave a legacy for the future visitors of the Museum (or 'virtual' visitors).

Each student is to produce a podcast, covering some aspect of the course and the Museum. We will review each other's work; using cooperative learning skills to Constructively give feedback on every aspect (including fact checking). By the end of the term you will be using the latest technology to add a new perspective for future museum visitors to enjoy. The final product should be approximately 3-5 minutes long, with pictures (or video), representing accurate information that coincides with museum exhibits.

To make sure we cover all aspects equally, we have a list of potential topics that compliment much of the information you will need to know by the end of the course. Each person must choose their top 3 choices, and I will do my best to help you get a topic you are interested in. Please keep an open mind. There is a lot of information and potentially cool subject matter here. If you have a suggestion for a topic not on the list, see me ahead of time and we will work something out. Kira Berman (Museum Educational Coordinator) will offer some tips on choosing a topic.

This project will be completed in multiple phases. First, I would like you to go to other websites that incorporate podcasts and determine what you feel are examples of good and bad podcasts. Be specific, what does and does not work for this type of a project. We will discuss this in class by the end of the second week. Then, you need to write a five-page research paper on a chosen topic (INCLUDING citations of your resources). This is due **February 19**. I prefer APA formatting. Please do your best to check your facts. Remember, your end product will represent the U of M, so we want to be accurate. The second phase will involve cooperating with your fellow classmates to review other work. I would like each student to review 3 other reports, and give feedback. We will do this through CTOOLS and PBWiki. Reviews are due by **March 10**. After suggestions are made, you are then expected to revise your report and pair it down for a 3-5 minute podcast (the initial trial is due **March 24**). Feel free to be creative and incorporate your artistic side. Kira Berman will offer helpful suggestions on exhibit interpretation and incorporating creative ideas for a functional podcast. Finally, the end product for this project (the completed podcasts) will be due by **April 12**. My preference is that you record your podcast yourself, though that is not required. See me if you would rather have someone else read your material instead.

Remember, we are attempting to create a lasting legacy for future visitors to enjoy. However, if you would rather not have your final product added to the public website, you have the choice to decline. However, you still must produce a project as if it is to be uploaded (we will just not incorporate it at the end). This is supposed to be a fun project, where you can bring out your artistic side. Try and enjoy yourself, and do your best.

Timeline for Podcast Project
Review of what makes a good podcast – January 15
Five-page paper – February 19
3 reviews of other works – March 10
First attempt at podcast – March 24
End product – April 12